Ochoco and Deschutes National Forests and Prineville District, Bureau of Land Management Office of Communications

Working as One to Serve Central Oregon

News and Information For Immediate Release June 6, 2002 at 10:00 am Contacts: Virginia Gibbons

(541) 416-6647

Wildfire Burning South of Maupin

CENTRAL OR—A 3480-acre wildfire that started on Wednesday, June 5th, continues to burn in grass and juniper along the Deschutes River. The fire started at approximately 2:00 pm yesterday and is located 13 miles south of Maupin. Bureau of Land Management, Bureau of Indian Affairs and Forest Service firefighters and equipment, as well as a 20-person contract crew, were dispatched to control the blaze.

"This is a normal size fire for this time of year," said Acting Deputy Fire Staff Will Bartlett. "The steep terrain and fine, flashy fuels along the Deschutes river corridor naturally encourage rapid fire growth, particularly when you have 20-25 mph winds."

Although there are some historical farm buildings and a ranch in the area, no structures were threatened. An aerial observation aircraft continues to monitor the area. The cause of the fire is currently under investigation. The fire is 40% contained with an estimated containment date on Friday, June 7th at 8:00 pm. The estimated control date is Saturday, June 8th at 6:00 pm.

-end-